

Serial No. 09/002,906

Docket No. P1181US00

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-51. (Canceled)

52. (Currently Amended) A method of managing favorite channels relating to a user specified theme, the method comprising:

receiving inputs from a user specifying a theme for the favorite channels;

saving the theme on a computerized system associated with a television receiver in response to receiving said inputs from the user;

searching available channels for content matching the theme, wherein the searching is conducted within a predetermined number of timeslots ahead of a current time;

detecting a match between said theme and content scheduled to air on a channel from among the available channels; and

adding said channel to a favorites list in response to the detection of said match for the theme;

wherein said timeslots are each a predefined timeslot length long and the update frequency is no less than once per said predefined timeslot length.

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53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said favorites list is a first favorites list, the method further comprising:

providing a second favorites list based on usage habits of the user, wherein the computerized system detects matches to be added to the second favorites list by monitoring the usage habits of the user;

wherein said first favorites list is based on the user specified theme and is independent of a number of times the available channels have been viewed.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said searching, said detecting and said adding are conducted automatically without user intervention after the theme is saved on the computerized system.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said computerized system associated with the television receiver is part of a convergence system configured to receive television signals from at least one of a group of signal providers consisting of satellite television, cable television and terrestrial broadcast television.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said inputs are first inputs, the method further comprising:

removing said channel from the favorites list after the content has aired, the channel being removed without user intervention.

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57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein said inputs are first inputs, the method further comprising:

receiving second inputs from the user specifying a sub-theme further defining the theme for the favorite channels.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 57, wherein said first inputs and said second inputs are selected from a list of content descriptors.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, said searching being conducted in an electronic program guide (EPG) database associated with said at least one of a group of signal providers in accordance with an update frequency.

60. (Canceled).

61. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 60 52, wherein said timeslots are each 30 minutes in length and the update frequency is no less than once every 30 minutes.

62. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions stored thereon for execution on a computer, the computer executable instructions comprising the steps of:

receiving inputs from a user specifying a theme for the favorite channels;

saving the theme on a computerized system associated with a television receiver in response to receiving said inputs from the user;

searching available channels for content matching the theme, wherein the searching is conducted within a predetermined number of timeslots ahead of a current time;

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detecting a match between said theme and content scheduled to air on a channel from among the available channels; and

adding said channel to a favorites list in response to the detection of said match for the theme;

wherein said timeslots are each a predefined timeslot length long and the update frequency is no less than once per said predefined timeslot length.

63. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 62, wherein said favorites list is a first favorites list, the method further comprising:

providing a second favorites list based on usage habits of the user, wherein the computerized system detects matches to be added to the second favorites list by monitoring the usage habits of the user;

wherein said first favorites list is based on the user specified theme and is independent of a number of times the available channels have been viewed.

64. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 62, wherein said searching, said detecting and said adding are conducted automatically without user intervention after the theme is saved on the computerized system.

65. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 62, wherein said computerized system associated with the television receiver is part of a convergence system configured to receive television signals from at least one of a group of signal providers consisting of satellite television, cable television and terrestrial broadcast television.

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66. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 62, wherein said inputs are first inputs, the method further comprising:

removing said channel from the favorites list after the content has aired, the channel being removed without user intervention.

67. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 62, wherein said inputs are first inputs, the method further comprising:

receiving second inputs from the user specifying a sub-theme further defining the theme for the favorite channels.

68. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67, wherein said first inputs and said second inputs are selected from a list of content descriptors.

69. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 64, said searching being conducted in an electronic program guide (EPG) database associated with said at least one of a group of signal providers in accordance with an update frequency.

70. (Canceled)

71. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~70~~ 62, wherein said timeslots are each 30 minutes in length and the update frequency is no less than once every 30 minutes.

72. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein said favorites list can either be updated automatically or can be updated by receiving inputs from a user.

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73. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 62, wherein said favorites list can either be updated automatically or can be updated by receiving inputs from a user.